Barbary Captivity Narratives
Tales of Mediterranean Pirate Encounters

Piracy and captivity were important issues for almost all Muslim and Christian regions that were to some degree involved in Mediterranean trade in the early modern era. Most of them had to cope with corsairs capturing trading goods and enslaving members of their communities. Some survivors of Mediterranean piracy and enslavement later wrote or published accounts of their experiences. Besides recounting the adventures of their protagonists, these Barbary Coast captivity narratives touch upon issues of acculturation, the cultural and ethnic melting pot of the Barbary Coast, inter-Christian relations, the Islamic faith, as well as issues of gender, sexuality, and homecoming.

The aim of this conference is to look at these narratives in a variety of languages from a literary perspective, while putting them into a proper historical and cultural context. Although the narratives as such stand at the center of the conference, some papers will address larger issues pertinent to the production and reception of these texts.

Sponsors

Land Tirol
Doppelmayr
Land Vorarlberg
Innsbruck Tourismus
American Corner Innsbruck
International Relations Office
Office of the Vice Rector for Research
FSP Kulturelle Begegnungen – Kulturelle Konflikte

Organization

Univ.-Prof. Mario Klarer (project leader)
Mag. Tobias Auböck (tobias.auboeck@uibk.ac.at)
Mag. Robert Spindler (robert.spindler@uibk.ac.at)

Contact

ESCAPE – European Slaves: Christians in African Pirate Encounters
www.uibk.ac.at/projects/escape
Tel.: +43 512 507-4188

at the
Department of American Studies
University of Innsbruck
amerikastudien@uibk.ac.at
Tel.: +43 512 507-4171

Piracy and Captivity in the Mediterranean
1530 - 1810

Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives

International Conference

June 16 – 18, 2016
Claudiana
Herzog-Friedrich-Str. 3, Innsbruck
Schedule:

**Thursday, June 16**

09:00-09:30 Opening Remarks  
Tilmann Märk - Rector, University of Innsbruck  
Sebastian Donat - Dean, Faculty of Humanities (Language and Literature), University of Innsbruck  
Mario Klarer - Head of the Department of American Studies

09:30-10:30 Keynote Lecture I  
Nabil Matar (University of Minnesota)  
*Two Arabic Accounts of Captivity in Seventeenth-Century Malta*

11:00-12:00 Keynote Lecture II  
Christine Sears (University of Alabama, Huntsville)  
*Arab Speculators and Slavery in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century Western Sahara*

14:00-15:30 Parallel Workshop Panels 1  
Workshop A: The Northern European Perspective (Chair: M. Ressel)  
Joachim Östlund: Slave Trade and Slave Labour at the Swedish Consulates in North Africa: A Study into the Networks of Slavery and the Use of Unfree Africans and Europeans 1730-1850  
Porssteinn Helgason: The Extreme Point: The Turkish Raid in Iceland 1627  
Adam Nichols: Reverend Olafur Eglisson, a Man of His Times  
Workshop B: The American Perspective (Chair: E. Furlanetto)  
Nikolettta Papadopoulou: Conversion and Integration: National Anxieties in American Barbary Captivity Narratives  
Tobias Auböck: Easier Imagined than Described: Femininity and Fictionality in American Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives  
Zsolt Palotás: Welcomed Visitor or/and Political Pest of Society?: The Mission of the Tunisian Envoy from Barbary to the United States (1805-1806)

16:00-17:00 Keynote Lecture II  
Gillian Weiss (Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio)  
*A Huguenot Captive in 'Uthman Dey's Court: Histoire chronologique du royaume de Tripoly (1685) and Its Author*

**Friday, June 17**

10:00-12:00 Workshop Panel 2  
*Processing Captivity* (Chair: L. Kattenberg)  
Michael Gordon: Spanish cautivo Literature and the Return of the Jew to the Iberian Peninsula  
Marcus Hartner: Rereading Captivity: Hybrid Genres and Narrative Experimentation in Early Modern Captivity Narratives  
Giulia Bonazza: The Color of the Skin in the Mediterranean Slave Exchanges: Palermo, Livorno, Algiers and Tunis

14:00-15:00 Keynote Lecture IV  
Daniel J. Vítkus (University of California, San Diego): *From Ransoming Captives to Human Trafficking: English Texts, Commercial Transformation, and Barbary Captivity in the Early Modern Period*

15:30-17:00 Parallel Workshop Panels 3  
Workshop A: Negotiating Identity (Chair: G. Bonazza)  
Stefanie Frick: Renegades between Christian 'Self' and Muslim 'Other': The Captivity Narratives of Joseph Pitts and Thomas Pel low  
Robert Spindler: Identity Crisis: Returning from the Barbary Coast  
Salvatore Bono: L'esclave religieux di Antoine Quatter (Tripoli, 1660-1668), come fonte storica  
Workshop B: Orientalism and the Orient (Chair: R. Rebitsch)  
Anna Diamantoulou: Beyond Orientalism: Re-Reading American Barbary Captivity Narratives  
Abdelmjid Kettouli: Islam's Blonde Conquests on the Barbary Coast: Geopolitics, Faith and Sexuality in Elizabeth Marsh's The Female Captive (1769)  
Ernst Peter Ruhe: Images from the Dey's Court: The Artist as Slave in Algiers

17:30-18:30 Keynote Lecture V  
George A. Starr (University of California, Berkeley)  
**Barbary Slavery and Robinson Crusoe**

**Saturday, June 18**

10:30-12:00 Parallel Workshop Panels 4  
Workshop A: Captivity and Life Stories (Chair: M. Gordon)  
Robert Rebitsch: Michael Heberer as Prisoner in the Ottoman Navy  
Christine Isom-Verhaaren: Captivity Tales and the Captive Admiral, Venedikli Hasan  
Peter Mark: Ahmed Al-Mansur and Antonio de Saldanha: The Muslim Ruler as Enlightened Despot  
Workshop B: Images of Slavery (Chair: J. Östlund)  
Lisa Kattenberg: Muslims, Morality and Commercial Success: The Captivity Narrative of Emanuel d’Aranda, 1640-1682  
Magnus Ressel: Putting Christian Slavery into Perspective. On Johann Frisch’s *Schauplatz barbarischer Schlavery* (1666)  
Sebastian Zylinski: Gotha and Its Lost Seamen – The Image of Slavery in Central Germany in the First Half of the 18th Century

14:00-15:00 Keynote Lecture VI  
Wolfgang Kaiser (Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne)  
**Persuasion and Plausibility. Narrative Elements in the Ransoming Process**

15:30-16:30 Keynote VII  
Jeremy Popkin (University of Kentucky)  
Émile in Chains: A New Perspective on Rousseau and Slavery

16:30-17:00 Closing Remarks

All keynote lectures take place in the Claudiasaal.  
Workshops A take place in the Claudiasaal.  
Workshops B take place in the Türingsaal.  
All talks are open to the public.